

[PRICE \$24 PER MONTH]

PLANTAS

FOR SHANGHAI
THE Steamship
"NINGPO."
Main Wm. Ports will be despatched for above
Port TO-DAY, the 24th inst.
Or Freight or Passage, apply to
J. B. SIMMONS & Co.
Hongkong, 24th November, 1885. [2065]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

R SWATOW, AMOY, AND POOCHOW.
THE Company's Steamship
"NAMOY."
Main Wm. Ports will be despatched for the
Ports TO-MORROW, the 25th inst.
Or Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAMPAK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 24th November, 1885. [2086]

FOR YOKOHAMA AND HIOGO.
THE Steamship
"GLENLYON."
Main Wm. Ports will be despatched as above
TO-MORROW, the 26th inst. at Noon.
Or Freight or Passage, apply to
J. B. JARDINE, MATTHESSON & Co.
Hongkong, 25th November, 1885. [2069]

DO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR SHANGHAI.
Main Wm. Ports will be despatched at through rates
TO-MORROW, the 26th inst. at Noon.
Or Freight or Passage, apply to
J. B. JARDINE, MATTHESSON & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 25th November, 1885. [2087]

THE NETHERLANDS INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Company's Steamship
"CELEBES,"
Main de Haan, will be despatched as above
on **THURSDAY**, the 26th inst., at FIVE P.M.
or Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHEWSON & Co.,
Agents,
Singapore, 25th November, 1885. 12083

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE.
EVERY description of FURNITURE on
SALE and for Hire, at Moderate Prices.
Large quantities of JAPANESE and CHI-
NESE CURIOS for Sale.
E. CASSIMBERRY,
Opposite City Hall.

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF
HONGKONG.**
E BANKRUPTCY ORDINANCE OF
1864.
MEETING OF THE CREDITORS OF THE
BANKRUPT'S hereinafter named who have
admitted or Claimed Debts will be held pursuant
to above Ordinance at the said Court and place
hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, at the
said Court, before **ALFRED GOSWICK**,
Esq., Acting Registrar.
WONG K. HUNG CHUEN and **WO SOW**
KING, the said Bankrupts, on the 22nd day
of December, 1885. A Dividend Meeting will
be held on **TUESDAY**, December, 8th 1885,
at 11 A.M.
ALFRED G. WISE,
Acting Registrar.

Said Supreme Court.
24th Nov. mber, 1885.
at the said Meeting the Official Assignee will,
in pursuance of the said Ordinance, submit State-
ments of the Bankrupts' Estates received and
disbursed and of all Receipts and all Payments
made or to be made by them and such Creditors
in pursuance of the said Ordinance declare
dividend and will then receive and be made

who have not proved or do not then prove to be excluded from the benefit of the Decree, and all Claims not proved will be disallowed.

12/10/85

THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE THOMAS EDWARD LUDLAM,
of Amoy, China.

NOTICE is hereby given that all Persons having any CLAIMS against the Estate as said THOMAS EDWARD LUDLAM, deceased in Amoy in the Empire of China, on the 1st of August, 1885, and Letters of Administration to same Estate granted to him on the 13th day of November, 1885, hereby required to send in writing to the undersigned on or before 31st December next, the names and particulars of their demands, and all Persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

NOTICE is HEREBY ALSO given that as soon as possible after the above mentioned date, the undersigned will proceed to distribute the assets of the said Estate amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims which he shall then have had notice of in writing.

Dated at Amoy, the 21st November, 1885.

B. S. RINGEY,
Administrator

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

NOTICE is hereby given that the PARTNERSHIP of YEUNG SUI KEE (楊水) hitherto existing between YEUNG (楊榮) alias YEUNG PUNG TING (楊榮亭) and LAI YAU (黎佑) alias KOW (黎九) alias LAI HOK TSAU (黎叔) and carried on by them at Victoria Colony was on the 21st day of November last determined and the Business of the said

WOTTON & DEACON,
Solicitors,
35, Queen's Road,
Hongkong.

HONGKONG STEAM LAUNDRY
COMPANY, LIMITED.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS
of the above Company is hereby called for
on WEDNESDAY, the 25th inst.,
at the HONGKONG HOTEL, at 3 O'CLOCK P.M.,
to decide as to whether the LAUNDRY be
sold or CARRIED ON.

R. C. HURLEY,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 25th November, 1885. [2015

SHANGHAI PUBLIC SCHOOL.

THE ASPIRES of the MASONIC
FRATERNITY.

THE COUNCIL are prepared to receive
applications for the Posts of MASTER and
WARRANTOR of the above School.

Copies of applications enclosing Copies of
the Regulations to be observed by the Candidates
will be sent to the undersigned on or before
the 15th of December next.

Candidates are requested to state whether
they are Single or Married.

JOHN MORRIS,
Hon. Secretary.

Shanghai, 11th November, 1885. [2032

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

TUESDAY, 24th November.

For German steamship *Olympia*, sailed on the 19th November. For *Harve*—20 boxes of animal, 32 rolls of matting, 15 cases of hair, 7 cases of China ink, and 9 cases of porcelain. For *Harve* option Hamburg—608 packages of merchandise. For *Harve* Hamburg—1,251 boxes of preserves, 25 cases of ginger, 80 cases of essential oil, 72 packages of cases, and 185 packages of sundries.

Per steamship *Petroles*, sailed on the 22nd November. For *London*—7,001 lbs. of cotton, 46,895 lbs. of cotton, 3,893 lbs. of wool, 45 cases of waste silk, 1,000 empty quicksilver flasks, and 29 packages of sundries. For *New York*—23 rolls of matting, and 2 packages of sundries. From *Mainin*—1,710 bales of hemp.

OPTIMUM.

Quotations are—\$540 per picul, also, of 33 Malva (New).
Malva (Old).....\$550 per picul, also, of 33 Malva (New).
Patna (Old).....\$575 per chest.
Bazaar (New).....\$525 per chest.
Bazaar (Old).....\$525 per chest.

EXCHANGE.

Telegraphic Transfer.....3/4
Bank Bills, on demand.....3/5
Bank Bills, at 30 days sight.....3/5
Bank Bills, at 4 months sight.....3/5
Credits, at 4 months sight.....3/5
Documentary Bills, at 4 months sight.....3/5

ON LONDON.

Telegraphic Transfer.....3/4
Bank Bills, on demand.....3/5
Bank Bills, at 30 days sight.....3/5
Bank Bills, at 4 months sight.....3/5
Credits, at 4 months sight.....3/5
Documentary Bills, at 4 months sight.....3/5

ON CALCUTTA.

Telegraphic Transfer.....227 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand.....228
Bank Bills, at 30 days sight.....228
Bank Bills, at 4 months sight.....228
Credits, at 4 months sight.....228
Documentary Bills, at 4 months sight.....228

ON SHANGHAI.

Bank at sight.....72 1/2
Private, 30 days sight.....74 1/2

SHARDES.

Quotations are—Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares—161 per cent. premium.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited—\$450 per share.
China Traders Insurance Company's Shares—\$85 per share.

North China Insurance—Tis. 300 per share.

Yantai Insurance Association—Tis. 128 per share.

Chinese Insurance Company, Limited—\$170 per share.

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tis. 148 per share.

Canton Insurance Office, Limited—\$80 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$70 per share.

China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$75 per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—\$3 per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—\$3 per share.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s Shares—\$5 per share.

China and India Steam Navigation Company, Limited—\$5 per share.

Douglas Steamship Company, Limited—\$45 per share.

Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—\$30 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—\$15 per share.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$82 per share.

China Sugar Refining Company (Debtors)—1 per cent. premium nominal.

Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$75 per share.

Hongkong Ice Company's Shares—\$165 per share.

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$120 per share.

Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Company—\$10 per share.

Slangor Tin Mining Company—\$10 per share.

Perak Tin Mining Company—\$10 per share.

Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$7 per share.

Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$7 per share.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 A—2 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 D—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 E—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 F—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 G—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 H—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 I—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 J—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 K—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 L—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 M—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 N—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 O—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 P—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 Q—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 R—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 S—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 T—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 U—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 V—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 W—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 X—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 Y—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 Z—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 A—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 D—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 E—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 F—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 G—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 H—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 I—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 J—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 K—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 L—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 M—5 per cent. premium.

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Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 P—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 Q—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 R—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 S—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 T—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 U—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 V—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 W—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 X—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 Y—5 per cent. premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 Z—5 per cent. premium.

FOR SALE.

A NEW COTTAGE PIANO with METAL FRAME. Price, \$175.
Apply to
Hongkong, 17th November, 1885. (2044)

FOR SALE.

THE COMPLETE PLANT MACHINERY FOR A SUGAR REFINERY.
Messrs. SHEARS AND SONS, of London.
This Machinery is quite new, and will be sold at a bargain.
For Full Particulars, apply to
Messrs. J. B. MEDFORD & Co.
Hongkong, 5th November, 1885. (1971)

FOR SALE.

CHAMPAGNE "MONOPOLE."
—HEIDSIECK & Co.—
Sole Agents for
HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, AND THE EAST.
Hongkong, 1st July, 1885. (1209)

FOR SALE.

MONOPOLE Red Seal (medium dry).
Do. Red Seal "Sec" (dry).
Do. Gold Seal "Dry" (extra dry).
CARLOWITZ & Co.,
Sole Agents for
HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, AND THE EAST.
Hongkong, 1st July, 1885. (1209)

FOR SALE.

BARGAIN.
FIRE PROOF SAFE.
DEED OR BULLION SAFE just imported. Chinese Locks and Duplication Keys. Size of Safe 60" by 46" by 24".
J. M. ARMSTRONG.
Hongkong, 24th July, 1885. (1354)

FOR SALE.

J. AND R. TENNENT ALES and DAVID CORSE & SONS.
Navy Bottled Long Flax CANVAS.
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.
Hongkong, 11th May, 1887. (19)

FOR SALE.

THE TABLE OF ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES OF ENGLISH AND FRENCH MALES at and from HONGKONG, and HONGKONG with Anglo-Chinese Calendar can be had at 10 Cents each or \$1 per dozen.
"Daily Press" Office,
5th January, 1885.

FOR SALE.

BOUND VOLUMES of the China Overseas Trade Report for the Year 1884.
Price Ten Dollars.
Apply at the Daily Press Office.
Hongkong, January, 1885.

FOR SALE.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.
GOLD, MIDDLE, and SILVER.
Sole by all Stationers and Dealers. (1880)

FOR SALE.

THE TOURIST'S GUIDE.
Reduced Price, \$1.
Containing the names of all the Articles of Trade, objects of Natural History, Furniture, &c., &c., with the Pinyin and Mandarin Pronunciation.
Also a copy of the GRAMMAR of the CHINESE LANGUAGE, in two Parts.
The Daily Press Office.

FOR SALE.

THE HOUSEHOLD COMPANION AND STUDENT'S FIRST ASSISTANCE.
By Dr. DEY.
With many Additions, Corrections, and Dr. WILLIAMS' Orthography.
Paper Wrappers.....\$1.50
Neatly Bound.....\$2.00
Apply at the Daily Press Office.

FOR SALE.

CHAS. H. EIDSIECK'S CHAMPAGNE, 1884. Price, \$1.50 per case of 12 dozen. \$20 per case of 2 dozen. \$24 per case of 1 dozen. \$28 per case of 1/2 dozen. \$32 per case of 1/4 dozen. \$36 per case of 1/8 dozen. \$40 per case of 1/16 dozen. \$44 per case of 1/32 dozen. \$48 per case of 1/64 dozen. \$52 per case of 1/128 dozen. \$56 per case of 1/256 dozen. \$60 per case of 1/512 dozen. \$64 per case of 1/1024 dozen. \$68 per case of 1/2048 dozen. \$72 per case of 1/4096 dozen. \$76 per case of 1/8192 dozen. \$80 per case of 1/16384 dozen. \$84 per case of 1/32768 dozen. \$88 per case of 1/65536 dozen. \$92 per case of 1/131072 dozen. \$96 per case of 1/262144 dozen. \$100 per case of 1/524288 dozen. \$104 per case of 1/1048576 dozen. \$108 per case of 1/2097152 dozen. \$112 per case of 1/4194304 dozen. \$116 per case of 1/8388608 dozen. \$120 per case of 1/16777216 dozen. \$124 per case of 1/33554432 dozen. \$128 per case of 1/67108864 dozen. \$132 per case of 1/134217728 dozen. \$136 per case of 1/268435456 dozen. \$140 per case of 1/536870912 dozen. \$144 per case of 1/1073741824 dozen. \$148 per case of 1/2147483648 dozen. \$152 per case of 1/4294967296 dozen. \$156 per case of 1/8589934592 dozen. \$160 per case of 1/17179869184 dozen. \$164 per case of 1/34359738368 dozen. \$168 per case of 1/68719476736 dozen. \$172 per case of 1/137438953472 dozen. \$176 per case of 1/274877906944 dozen. \$180 per case of 1/549755813888 dozen. \$184 per case of 1/1099511627776 dozen. \$188 per case of 1/2199023255552 dozen. \$192 per case of 1/4398046511104 dozen. \$196 per case of 1/8796093022208 dozen. \$200 per case of 1/17592186044416 dozen. \$204 per case of 1/35184372088832 dozen. \$208 per case of 1/70368744177664 dozen. \$212 per case of 1/140737488355328 dozen. \$216 per case of 1/281474976710656 dozen. \$220 per case of 1/562949953421312 dozen. \$224 per case of 1/1125899906842624 dozen. \$228 per case of 1/2251799813685248 dozen. \$232 per case of 1/4503599627370496 dozen. \$236 per case of 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\$464 per case of 1/1298074214633706907134224082305024 dozen. \$468 per case of 1/2596148429267413814268448164610048 dozen. \$472 per case of 1/5192296858534827628536896329220096 dozen. \$476 per case of 1/10384593717069655257073792658440192 dozen. \$480 per case of 1/20769187434139310514147585316880384 dozen. \$484 per case of 1/41538374868278621028295170633760768 dozen. \$488 per case of 1/83076749736557242056590341267521536 dozen. \$492 per case of 1/166153499473114484113180682535043072 dozen. \$496 per case of 1/332306998946228968226361365070086144 dozen. \$500 per case of 1/664613997892457936452722730140172288 dozen. \$504 per case of 1/1329227995784915872905445460280344576 dozen. \$508 per case of 1/2658455991569831745810890920560689152 dozen. \$512 per case of 1/5316911983139663491621781841121378304 dozen. \$516 per case of 1/10633823966279326983243563682242756608 dozen. \$520 per case of 1/21267647932558653966487127364485513216 dozen. \$524 per case of 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CAPITAL WINE.

BY THE LATE HON. CONWAY,
AUTHOR OF "CAPITAL WINE," "DARK
DAYS," ETC.

"Capital wine, John," I said, holding the glass between the lamp and my eyes and admiring the rich, ruby tint.

"Capital, and it's good," replied John, coddling his glass in the palm of his hand in order to warm the wine and fully bring out its bouquet and flavour.

We had just finished the sort of dinner I consider perfection for two persons. A drop of champagne, a glass of wine, and a brace of woodcock.

That is, to my mind, as nice a dinner as can be devised, and one which has been given you have no occasion to reproach yourself with high feeding or gluttony. Others may devour huge cuts of roast beef, or saddle, but I am always contented with a humble menu like the above.

"Thirty-four of course," I said, after tasting the port again.

John nodded and continued nursing his glass.

"Where did you buy it John?" I inquired.

"Didn't buy it," replied John, "you can't buy such wine as this now."

"A gift from a grateful client, I presume," I said, smiling at the old fellow's remark.

"Not a bit of it. Clients ain't so generous now-a-days. If we can get our costs we are content."

"Well, how did you get it?"

"Stole it," replied John, shortly.

"What do you mean?"

"I mean I stole that wine as much as ever a thief stole a watch, a diamond ring, a pocket watch, and it had succeeded in effecting the theft."

You would have done the same, would you not?"

"I don't know. It depends upon the risk of conviction and imprisonment; but tell me all about it."

John placed all the bottles fairly between us as before.

You know my old uncle, William Slagg—as you may have heard of him. Well, he made a good bit of money draystaying, and what is more, made it when he was a youngish man. He must have been well brought up, or mixed with the right sort of people, for he developed a wonderful taste for wine, and instead of doing what lots of people do now—more shame to them—went out to their grocers for half-a-dozen bottles they want it, used to buy a pipe or butt at a time and lay it down. He reaped the reward of his sensible conduct, for when he retired from draystaying he found himself with a cellar not only amply stocked, but without a drop of bad wine in it. So he settled down to live comfortably on his investments, and to drink his wine in peace. Poor old boy! he was beautiful to see him, and amusing to hear him with the deacon in front of him. He knew the history of each wine he gave you, and nearly all had a tender reminiscence for him. He would sip a drop of cherry and look across at me and say, "This is the wine that won John's heart, and to drink it to his health."

It was a pleasant something to enjoy and think over. Then he would turn to the port. "I thought that pipe, John, when I made a wonderful hit in tallow; or that claret, John, I laid down when legwood went up to such a price"—and so on.

The old man was by no means a wine bibber, but he would take his four or five glasses after dinner and when he was alone he suffered a little from gout before he died, but not more than many elderly gentlemen with ruinous fancies. He lived a good many years enjoying the fruit of his labours and the juice in his cellar, and at last slipped away quite peacefully. His last words were to me:

"Give them the '47 and the green seal sherry at the funeral, John; there's more body, more solemnity in those wines than some of the others." And then old William Slagg went off, and I have to do now the best job of nectar in the upper regions.

He left me his executor, and I am happy to say the reversion of a considerable sum with the minor and the major, and the great out-letting of disappointment. I found all the contents of his house, including the cellar of wines, were here absolutely.

It seemed absurd for a splendid lot of wines like that to belong to a woman who would be utterly unable to appreciate them, and whose ideas of wine were bounded after the manner of some of the great wine-pigeons on one side and family port on the other. I had never expected to be left so much money, but had always cherished the hope that Uncle Slagg, who had greatly approved of the way in which I discussed his liquor, would have left me those wines.

However, I thought very likely the widow would have a good sum of money to run the full business, so I intended to offer to buy them after a decent interval.

My Aunt Slagg was very different idea to those of her late and lamented husband. I remember her, however, as a sensible woman, and, having a good eye to the main chance, she had been a capital wife to William Slagg. But about a year before his death, she had attended some revival meetings, a love-feast, or something of that sort, and been converted. I can't tell, of course, but I feel sure that nothing can be more annoying to an ordinary man than to find the wife of his bosom, who has jogged along with him very comfortably in a given and settled way for many years, suddenly turn round and lecture him upon his sinfulness and weakness. I am convinced the shock of her conversion hastened old William's death. He had been so accustomed to look upon drinking good wine as the duty of a Christian, that when his wife made a new departure, and became a rabid teetotaler, the thing was too much for him, and he died.

I intended to solve the problem by the simple expedient of selling the wines, and I had accordingly quoted Sir Wilfred Lawson, Dr. Richardson, and other authorities, all dinner-time, and when the dealers were placed upon the table walk away, with a look of chagrin and sorrow upon her face. Nothing, of course, could we do but wait for the wine to be sold, and when the dealer came to her wine, she called it the little weakness, but I knew after that the liquor had lost some of its flavour for him, and did not taste the same as in the old days before her awakening, when she would fill his glass and even press him to take an extra one for the sake of his health. I wonder he did not alter his will, and no doubt he would, had he known to what lengths her fanaticism would lead her. I managed by a skilful device to keep the wine pretty good terms with the old lady. I took the temperance tracts which she brought, and led her to understand that, if I could not make up my mind to take the pledge at once, it was a good deal out of consideration for her husband's feelings, and I might do as some day. She looked upon me as a weak vessel, but had great respect for me, and I eventually became strong enough to hold the gift of grace as she rather curiously termed it.

After William Slagg's death I had, in my position as executor, a lot of business to transact with her, and for some weeks saw her nearly every day. I thought the time was coming when I might break the will of the cellar to her, and as I was walking to the house one afternoon, determined to sound her upon it. I rang and knocked for some minutes, but could get no answer to my summons. They are all upstairs, I thought, and can't hear me. Then I remembered that the day before, after going through a lot of papers of my uncle, I had looked at the drawers and put his bunch of keys in my pocket. His key-chain was amongst them, and I took the liberty of opening the door with it.

As I entered the house I smelt a very peculiar smell proceeding from the kitchen. It was the odour of wine, and very strong.

They must have been bottling carrying it up, I thought. Perhaps after all the old lady is not so strict a teetotaler when alone. And I laughed at the idea—little dreaming from whence the smell came. I could find no one in any of the sitting-rooms, and as I heard persons moving in the basement, proceeded there. My aunt, hearing my steps on the stairs, ran to the kitchen door to see what it was. I noticed she appeared vexed as she met me.

"I am particularly engaged this afternoon, John, and can't speak to you now," she said.

As she spoke I noticed the smell of the wine was almost overpowering, and I wondered what she was doing.

She had some old brown on, and that covered with a rough white apron, apparently soaked with some coloured fluid. She was dusty, dirty, untidy, and heated, and I noticed blood flowing from a cut on her hand.

What extraordinary household exploits could she be engaged in?

When I called to her, she said she can't stop to talk to you, and when she appears up to her eyes in cleaning house or something of that sort, the next thing to do is to make yourself scarce; so I apologized for my intrusion and promised to call again to-morrow.

"But what a strong smell of wine, aunt," I said.

"Don't you notice it?"

"I have," she replied, looking rather embarrassed. "Good boy, John, shut the door after you."

"Goodbye," I said, and retraced my steps.

As I went up those dark kitchen stairs a sudden thought struck me. And yet it seemed so wild and absurd that I laughed at it. I had been told that before I had the key, it had taken full possession of me, and I felt cold and pale with dread. I could not bear the uncertainty, and determined to ascertain, at any risk, if my suspicions were correct. Instead, therefore, of shutting the door from the outside, I shut it with a good bang from the inside and waited, scarcely breathing at the top of the stairs. After a minute's listening my ears caught a crash of glass and then a rich gurgle of fluid, that sent a thrill of horror through my heart. Another crash, another gurgle, and then another and another, and even that strange scent of wine stronger and stronger. It must be as I thought, so I crept like a cat down the stairs, once more and gently opened the kitchen door. No one was there, but I heard another crash and my aunt's voice exclaim in a tone of exalted fervor:

"Glorious—Altogether another bait taken from Satan's trap!"

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HONGKONG MARKETS.

At 10.30 AM, on the 25th Nov. 1885.

COTTON GOODS.

American Drill, 30 yards, per piece, \$2.25 to \$2.50.
English Drill, 30 yards, per piece, \$2.25 to \$2.50.
Cotton Tarn, No. 14 to 24, per 400 lbs, \$25.00 to \$27.50.
Cotton Tarn, No. 28 to 32, per 400 lbs, \$27.50 to \$30.00.
Cotton Tarn, Bombay, \$27.50 to \$30.00.

China, per piece, 70 to 1.75.
Dyed Spotted Shirtings, per piece, \$2.00 to \$2.50.
Dyed Broadcloth Shirtings, per piece, \$2.25 to \$2.50.

English Drill, 30 yards, per piece, \$2.25 to \$2.50.
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English Drill, 30 yards, per piece, \$2.25 to \$2.5